

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SINGAP 00813 010521Z
ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 INR-07 SS-15 OMB-01 IGA-02 TRSE-00
ACDA-07 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 EB-08 L-03 /055 W
-----010747 085216/14

R 010305Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7203
INFO DOD/ISA
DSAA
HQUSAF WASHDC/LGFE/XOXXP
JCS
CINCPAC
CINCPACAF

C O N F I D E N T I A L SINGAPORE 0813

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, SN
SUBJECT: GOS REQUEST TO PURCHASE TWO MORE C-130 B'S

1. DATT HAS RECEIVED LETTER DATED FEBRUARY 25 FROM PERMSEC
FOR DEFENSE, PANG TEE POW, REQUESTING THE PURCHASE OF ANOTHER
TWO C-130B AIRCRAFT ON THE SAME TERMS AND CONDITION
AS THE TWO C-130B'S WHICH HAVE JUST BEEN DELIVERED TO THE RSAF.

2. TEXT OF LETTER FOLLOWS:

BEGIN QUOTE

DEAR COL. FOSTER,

PURCHASE OF C-130B AIRCRAFT

THE FIRST OF THE TWO C130B'S MADE AVAILABLE TO THE RE-
PUBLIC OF SINGAPORE BY THE US GOVERNMENT ARRIVED ON 20 FEB
77 AND IS REPORTED TO BE IN VERY GOOD CONDITION. THE SECOND
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AIRCRAFT IS DUE TO BE IN VERY GOOD CONDITION. THE
SECOND AIRCRAFT IS DUE TO ARRIVE ON 27 FEB 77.

AS YOU ARE AWARE, THE INTRODUCTION OF C130'S INTO THE RSAF
ORBAT WAS PRIMARILY FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUPPORTING THE LAND
FORCES ON TRAINING OVERSEAS. IN OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH ADMIRAL
CROWE IN MID 1975 WE INDICATED THAT FOUR C130'S WOULD BE NEEDED

TO MEET THIS TASK. HOWEVER, OWING TO THE HEAVY DEMAND FOR C130'S FOR THE US ARMY, ITS RESERVE CORPS AND FOR OTHER FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS AT THAT TIME, ONLY TWO C130'S COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO SINGAPORE ON AN FMS CASH SALE BASIS.

THE KNOWN TASK FOR TRANSPORT SUPPORT FOR THE SINGAPORE ARMED FORCES OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS IS 1600 C130 HOURS PER YEAR AND WE EXPECT THIS TO INCREASE IN SUBSEQUENT YEARS. THIS TASK IS PURELY FOR PROGRAMMED OVERSEAS TRAINING AND EXCLUDES INCIDENTAL TASKS SUCH AS SEARCH AND RESCUE, EMERGENCY SUPPORT FOR FORCES TRAINING OVERSEAS, MERCY MISSIONS, VIP FLIGHTS ETC. IN ADDITION, WE ASSESS THAT THE SQUADRON WILL FLY 700 HOURS PER YEAR OF CONTINUATION TRAINING GIVING TOTAL ANNUAL C130 COMMITMENT OF APPROXIMATELY 2300 HOURS.

HAVING REGARD TO RSAF'S MAINTENANCE CONCEPT AND ORGANIZATION WE ASSESS THAT A MAXIMUM UTILIZATION RATE FOR RSAF WILL BE 60 HOURS PER AIRCRAFT PER MONTH AAND THAT A REALISTIC PLANNING UTILIZATION RATE WILL BE 600 HOURS PER AIRCRAFT PER YEAR. ON THIS BASIS RSAF WILL REQUIRE AT LEAST 4 C130 AIRCRAFT TO MEET THE KNOWN TASKS.

MINDEF IS ALSO CONCERNED THAT A FLEET OF ONLY TWO AIRCRAFT WILL NOT PROVIDE THE FLEXIBILITY TO MEET THE SUPPORT NEEDS OF THE LAND AND AIR FORCESWW THE NATURE OF THE OVERSEASTRAINING ENVISAGED IS SUCH THAT THE SUPPORT WILL BE NEEDED IN THE FORM OF A CONCENTRATED UPLIST OVER A SHORT SPACE OF TIME. FOR THE MAJORITY OF SUPPORT TASKS INVOLVING CONSIDERABLE TRANSITS, TWO AIRCRAFT WILL BE ESSENTIAL TO PROVIDE TIMELY DEPLOYMENT OF CONFIDENTIAL

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THE EXERCISING FORCES, RSAF COULD NOT GUARANTEE 100 PERCENT SERVICE- ABILITY FOR ALL SUPPORT TASKS AND WITH ONLY TWO AIRCRAFT WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE TRANSPORT AT THE TIME AND IN THE MANNER REQUIRED.

FOR THESE REASONS, WE CONSIDER THAT 4 C130 AIRCRAFT WILL BE ESSENTIAL TO MEET OUR TRAINING REQUIREMENTS. THE GOVERNMENT OF SINGAPORE THEREFORE WISHES TO ENQUIRE WHETHER A FURTHER TWO C130'S COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR SALE TO SINGAPORE.

I WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF OUR REQUEST FOR THE PURCHASE OF ANOTHER TWO C130B AIRCRAFT ON THE SAME TERMS AND CONDITIONS AS IN CASE PEACE PHOENIX DAO 2600338Z DATED MAY 1976 COULD BE FORWARDED TO APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES.

YOURS SINCERELY,

PANG TEE POW

PERMANENT SECRETARY DEFENCE

ENE QUOTE

3. COMMENT DAO IS CURRENTLY ANALYZING JUSTIFICATION SET FORTH
IN ABOVE LETTER. AS SOON AS THIS ANALYSIS HAS BEEN COMPLETED,
EMBASSY/DATT COMMENT WILL BE SUBMITTED.
HOLDRIDGE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PROCUREMENT, MILITARY AIRCRAFT, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SINGAP00813
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770069-0908
Format: TEL
From: SINGAPORE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197703105/aaaadond.tel
Line Count: 125
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Litigation Codes:
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2949448
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOS REQUEST TO PURCHASE TWO MORE C-130 B\VS
TAGS: MASS, SN, (PANG TEE POW)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/54f927ad-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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